McDonnell Douglas
IBM SIG
Newsletter

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   P   X

FLACHSBART, Barry
225/301/2E/279

**if undeliverable,
return to:**
   K. Casey
   N902/B280/1/E2

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, June 16, 1987
Bldg 33 Cafeteria

Subject: Nolde's Nuggets -- Programs
Collected from PC Magazines

BOOK LIBRARY

If you have recommendations for books to be purchased by the IBM/MS-DOS
SIG, please send the recommendations to Don Ray, E453/101a/3/340. Book
types and specific books should be identified.

The Library currently holds about 5 books, numerous back copies of
periodicals such as 'Byte', 'PC Magazine', 'PC World', and IBM SIG
newsletters. Charge out time is 2 weeks for periodicals and 3 weeks for
books. Send any requests to Don Ray. An updated list will be available at
the next meeting.

The SIG Book Library also has two printed lists of the files contained on
the "TDM" disks of the Disk Library. One list identifies the files on
each disk and the other is a list of all of the files, sorted
alphabetically. Each list is 5 pages long.

A copy of the lists can be requested from Don Ray, the Book Librarian.
Because of the number of pages involved, please be selective with your
requests and patient with the delivery. Lists will be available at the
next meeting.

NOTE: "TDM" disks stand for "Terry D Mueller" disks. These disks have been made up by Terry Mueller and contain his "pick" of the utilities. He feels that all of the utilities are very useful and recommends them to all. You will note that different versions of the same utilities may show up on different disks. The higher numbered disks are the newer ones.

We received one note on mail order purchasing:

"I recently ordered an Epson FX-286E printer from Bulldog in Atlanta, Ga. I received it in 48 hours! They were very helpful with several pre-purchase questions I had." (Phil Cavoretto)

MEETING - May 19
        The meeting ended with a diskette swap. Frank Broach brought in copies of three new disks from the Library. With each attendee, he swapped a full library disk for a blank formatted disk: no $1 charge. So remember to bring a blank formatted disk to the meetings.

RCC Board News: 1. Found a semi-permanent home for the FIDO10 system in a real computer room. 2. Trying to get another phone line for the bulletin board. 3. Getting an 80 meg disk drive to add to the current 40 meg drive available for IBM SIG.

4. Larry Nelson (Dept.095/79/1/B7) is setting up a Computer Club Vendor Night in the Fall. He needs volunteers to help with the various tasks:
        a) Generate a list of vendors to be invited
        b) Contact each Vendor, work as liasion with those coming
        c) Set up the room- arrange space, set up tables, get electrical cords
        d) Publicity
        e) Collect door prizes
  If you can help, please call Larry and volunteer.

5. Marilyn Jacobsmeyer (W331/500/SOUTH/TRAILER) needs some volunteers on Saturdays 5/23 to 6/23 in St. Charles. She is running a computer class for Boy Scouts on Saturday mornings and needs volunteers to escort the boys in the building and if possible, to assist in the teaching of BASIC.

Group Buys:
  Kevin Schmidt was holding the group buy for U. S. Robotiss modems open until May 29. Kevin Casey received requests for approximately 1500 diskettes for the group buy of diskettes.

  Don Ray runs the IBM-SIG Book Library. He has copies of past newsletters and handouts from the meetings, Books and Periodicals. Send an AVO if you want copies of any of the materials or want a list of documents.

        The IBM-SIG purchased a printer ribbon re-inker. It can handle Epson FX type ribbons. If you can show a need, we can buy a spindle to handle other type ribbons. To get a ribbon re-inked, send it to L. Fred Findley (210/275/1) with a check for $1.00 made out to the MDC Recreational Computer Club.

The FIDO10 Bulletin Board was discussed. Volunteers are needed to help the SYSOP. He needs help checking out software that has been uploaded to it. The RCC currently checks all software before allowing it to be downloaded. They try to verify that the software is Public Domain or User supported and that it will not damage your computer. This is time consuming - if you have time, they will give you some training. Contact Terry Mueller (N680/281D/L4).

The SIG received PKXARC 3.5 and LIST6.2A - newest versions of these utilities. It also received an update to Q Modem 3.0.

FUNCTION KEYS:
   Why: Increased user productivity.   ONE key press instead of multiples. Reduce the number of keystrokes. Reduce the number of ERRONEOUS key strokes.
      Terry Mueller explained how he assigns strings of characters to his function keys. This saves a lot of typing and prevents errors in commonly used strings. His handout demonstrated some that he has set up and his programs for turning the function keys "on" or "off" and for displaying what they have.
      Ted Nolde handed out a list of software presently in the library for performing this same function. He mentioned that a number of programs in the library have come from PC World and PC Magazine. A new magazine PC Resource also looks interesting.

Some library disks and programs which can be used to program your function keys are: TDM#6 ASDKEYS; TDM#4 NEWKEY; 444 HOTKEY; 379 WS-PROKEY; 374 FK20; 341 FUNKEY/NEWKEY. There are about 13 other diskettes in the library with programs to allow you to program your function keys.

A RAYTRACE AND DESIGN
PROGRAM EVERYONE CAN AFFORD

      One of the basic requirements for anyone working in optical systems is the ability to be able to enter the specifications of a system in the proper program and be able to evaluate the performance and if possible modify it to one's needs.
      In the past such programs have cost from hundreds to thousands of dollars limiting the average engineers abil- ity to have access to them. However, there is now avail- able a professional lens design raytrace and evaluation program for the amazing cost of only $199.95!
      Information on the capability of this program can be obtained from contacting the IBM SIG program library and asking for a copy of the flyer that is available. A copy of the program is in the hands of a retired Engineer and he is willing to allow MDC engineers to either come to his home on an evening or weekend to examine its possible applications for them, or if a number of engineers meet at a home in the county with an IBM machine with an 8087 chip he will come down and let them examine the program.
      Anyone interested can contact: Robert E. Cox, 305 Linda Lane, O'Fallon, Missouri 63366 and the phone is 1- 272-3592.

Questions and Answers

All input on any medium (disk or handwritten copy) is welcome and appreciated. All material must include your name, company address, and work phone number, but identity will be withheld upon request. Please reference the question number when sending a reply. Send inquiries and replies to Q & A, c/o K.Casey N902/B280/1/E2 232-2521.

#501 My brother has a program for his Apple which copies diskettes bit by bit. It's slow but it enables him to make back-ups of any diskette since the copy program never looks at the data on the diskette. Is this available for an MS-DOS computer? KC

#502 I see a number of communication programs for use with a modem in the library. Would someone please comment on their use of them with the FIDO BBS: ease of use, ability to download, etc.

FIDO10 ACCESS - FIDO10 operates 24 hrs/day, 7days per week.
   6:00 PM to 10:30 PM - reserved exclusively for MDC-RCC members.
   2:00 AM to 5:30 AM - system maintenance and mail activities.
   MDC St. Louis tel.no. 232-6881; Required commo parameters: No parity,
   8 data bits and 1 stop bit.

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                    IBM - SIG OFFICERS
Terry Mueller       N680/B281D/L4                Director
Ted Nolde           210/B221/L1/351              Program
Rich McDowell       E416/B101/MEZZ/C51           Secretary
Sam Leong           E030/B74A/L1                 Treasurer
Don Ray             E453/B101a/L3/340            Book Librarian
Frank Broach        253/B101/L2/Rm48             Disk Librarian
Kevin Casey         N902/B280/L1/E2              Editor (Temporary)
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  IBM-SIG DISK LIBRARY REQUEST
  NAME_____   ADDRESS_____

I wish a copy of the following diskette(s):

#_____   #_____   #_____   #_____   #_____   #_____

Enclosed is a check for $_____ and _____formatted blank diskettes.

SEND TO: FRANK BROACH 253/B101/L2/R48
INCLUDE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPPE AND CARDBOARD PACKING FOR DISKETTE.